District Judge Daybook Entry

United States District Court - Southern District of West Virginia at Beckley

Date: 5/27/2025 Case Number: 5:23-cr-00125

Case Style: USA vs. Gary Sawyers
Type of hearing: Criminal Jury Trial

Before the Honorable: 2517-Volk

Court Reporter: Catherine Schutte-Stant Courtroom Deputy: Tabitha Jarrell

Attorney(s) for the Plaintiff or Government:

Joshua Hanks,Brian Parsons
Attorney(s) for the Defendant(s):
David Bungard,Emily Szopinski

Law Clerk: Amanda Duvall

Probation Officer:

Court Times

Start Time	End Time	Court Time Description
9:10 AM	10:15 AM	Court actively conducting trial proceedings/Contested proceedings
10:36 AM	11:35 AM	Court actively conducting trial proceedings/Contested proceedings
1:00 PM	2:41 PM	Court actively conducting trial proceedings/Contested proceedings
4:30 PM	4:33 PM	Court actively conducting trial proceedings/Contested proceedings

Time in court: 3 hours and 48 minutes. Court actively conducting trial proceedings/Contested proceedings

Courtroom Notes

CRIMINAL TRIAL - DAY FIVE

Scheduled Start 0900 Actual Start Time 0910

AUSA Hanks and Parsons present

Defendant present in person and by counsel Bungard and Szopinski.

Jury present (13 jurors present)

Recalled Defense Witness Gary Sawyers to the stand from Thursday.

Continue Cross Examination

Govt exhibit 12 (previously marked and admitted)

Govt Exhibit 15 and 18

Defense objects

Sidebar

Objection sustained (exhibits not admitted)

Cross examination continues

Govt exhibit 1,9,10,11,13,8 (previously marked and admitted)

Court is in recess 1015

Court is again in session 1036

Government continues with cross examination

Govt exhibit 46, 47, 43

Marked and admitted

Sidebar

Govt continues cross examination

Re-direct examination

No re-cross

Defense 20, 21,22 Govt 41a

Defense rests Govt - no rebuttal evidence

Jury is excused 1100

Defense renewed motion for acquittal Court will defer ruling

Court and Parties discuss jury charge Govt comments Def comments Judge responds

Discuss time for closing argument Discuss order of instruction, closing, charge, then deliberation Will dismiss for lunch until 1:00

Jury returns 11:33

Court explains to jury how day will proceeds Jury dismissed for lunch until 1:00

Court is in recess for lunch 1135 Court is again in session 1300

Court gives jurors partial jury instructions

AUSA Parsons closing statement 1310 AFPD Bungard closing statement 1330 AUSA Hanks rebuttal closing statement 1410

Court asks parties to confer on matters they ask the Court to take judicial notice of AUSA responds
AFPD concurs

Court gives jurors remaining jury instructions 1425

Jury dismissed to deliberate 1440

Court ask counsel if there are any other matters to discuss before we recess Court is in recess 1441

Jury note 1615

Court is again in session 1630

Court understands we have a verdict Foreperson affirms

Court reads verdict - NOT GUILTY

Jury dismissed

Defendant discharged

Any further matters? Counsel responds

Court adjourned 1633